

Minutes
Congestion Pricing Economics Joint Subcommittee
(Co-Sponsoring Committees: ABE20 and ABE25)
Tuesday, January 24, 2006
5:30 PM – 7:15 PM
Washington Hilton – Bancroft Room

1. Welcome

Attendees were welcomed to the subcommittee. We reviewed the mission and goals of the subcommittee, its parentage, history and purpose. Several new attendees were present and signed the members/friends list. The subcommittee has significant flexibility terms of accepting interested members and friends – more so than a standing committee. All were encouraged to participate in the subcommittee's activities and to provide their perspectives on issues that the committee will tackle for the sponsoring committees.

All members will receive an agenda and copies of the mission and goals of the subcommittee as well as the materials (such as the list of Liaison Opportunities, members list, handouts and future agendas) via e-mail. To reduce the amount of paper flowing through the subcommittee, members and friends should bring whatever copies they desire to each meeting. We will try to keep reproduction of materials to a minimum and work as much as possible via e-mail and the Internet.

2. Reports from Committee Liaisons

One of the primary goals of the subcommittee is outreach and liaison with other TRB committees. An updated list of those subcommittee members who will serve as liaison to TB committees is attached. We have identified 35 committees (other than sponsoring committees) as having (or "needing") some contact with this subcommittee concerning the economic principles involving in pricing transportation services.

Timing of our meeting was such that few reports were available. We agreed that liaisons would work through a subcommittee web site that the Chair will set up to report activities of each subcommittee, and that the members and friends would consult the web site to enter their updates and review reports from liaisons. We will try this approach and see how it works, as it seems that the issue of conflicts and overlaps will be with us as long as TRB is so large and has such a compact time-frame for scheduling meetings.

3. Assignments and Volunteers for Unrepresented Committees

We added seven (7) new liaisons (see updated Liaison List). Member and friends should take a look at the list and notify the Chair concerning volunteering to serve as liaison(s). The list will be updated frequently, posted on the web site and

distributed twice a year (once before the mid-year meetings and once before the annual meeting.)

4. Support for Congestion Pricing Committee (ABE25) Strategic Plan (*Team: Ed Sullivan (Team Leader), David Reinke, Brian Baird, Tony May*)

The Congestion Pricing Committee has a Draft Strategic Plan (see attached). Our subcommittee has been asked to review and provide input to the Committee. Ed Sullivan (a member of both the Congestion Pricing Committee and the Joint Subcommittee) reviewed the purpose of the plan and some of the activities outlined in it. Subcommittee input to the plan will be coordinated by Ed. Tony, Brian and David have volunteered to assist Ed in reviewing the plan. Please, provide your ideas or comments to any of these four subcommittee members. We should have all comments in to this group for their review at least one month before the mid-year meetings, which are scheduled for July 9 to 11, 2006. So, let's shoot for a drop dead date of June 1st!

5. Critical Issues Input to Transportation Economics Committee: (*Coordinator: Jon Skolnik*)

The subcommittee has been asked to provide input to the Transportation Economics Committee for both the Congestion and the Equity Critical Issues (Hard Copy was included in the TRB registration materials and an Adobe file is attached and will also be on the subcommittee web site.)

Beth Pinkston will coordinate subcommittee input on the Congestion issue and Jon Skolnik will coordinate input on the Equity issue. We have an aggressive schedule for submitting our input as the Transportation Economics Committee Chair wants to forward our input as soon as possible to the Executive Committee. Here is our schedule:

- February 5: Initial input from subcommittee members to coordinators (Beth and Jon)
- February 12: Edited and consolidated comments will be prepared by Beth, Jon and Steve and sent to subcommittee members for review and comment
- February 16: Comments from all subcommittee members due to Steve
- February 17: Edited comments submitted to Doug Lee, Chair, Transportation Economics Committee.

We also discussed the idea of putting together a matrix that shows how some of these critical issues may interact and on what basis (e.g., equity and congestion). It is our understanding that the Critical Issues and the background we prepare may contribute to NCHRP problem statements in the future.

6. Information Needs Recommendations for Congestion Pricing and Economics (*Coordinator: Charles Prestrud*)

TRB's Executive Committee has requested that all committees identify unmet transportation information needs and the likely sources of data that may support

these data needs. A copy of the needs assessment request is attached to these minutes. Members of the subcommittee are requested to provide input to Charles Prestrud. It is our understanding that a questionnaire will be sent to all committee chairs shortly after the annual meeting – no date is given.

7. Participation in Evaluation Methods Conference

Because our subcommittee met at the same time as the planning committee for the evaluation conference, no report or direct coordination was possible at the annual meeting. Steve Fitzroy will forward results of the planning committee's proceedings to the subcommittee when they become available.

8. Call for Papers for 2007 Annual Meeting (*Team: Steve Fitzroy (Team Leader), Jon Peters, David Reinke, Matthew McGregor, Mark Burris, Ken Small, Tony May*)

There was a lively discussion concerning the kinds of paper topics that the subcommittee might consider sponsoring at the 2007 annual meeting. Topics considered included: continued papers and sessions on evaluating the equity effects of pricing; incidence of transportation costs (beyond those associated with market pricing); and the role of pricing on the regional economic effects of congestion.

The team members will develop one or more calls for papers using the format developed by TRB and work with the sponsoring committee chairs to support the issuing of these call(s) in advance of the summer meetings. Subcommittee members who are interested in participating either developing ideas, refining ideas or assisting in the preparation of the call(s) should feel free to contact any of the team members.

9. Attendance and Support for the 2006 Summer Meetings in La Jolla

Of those in attendance at the subcommittee meeting, eight (8) expect to attend the summer meetings in La Jolla, CA.

10. Adjourn

The subcommittee adjourned at 7:15PM. The attendance and active participation by both new and existing members was sincerely appreciated.